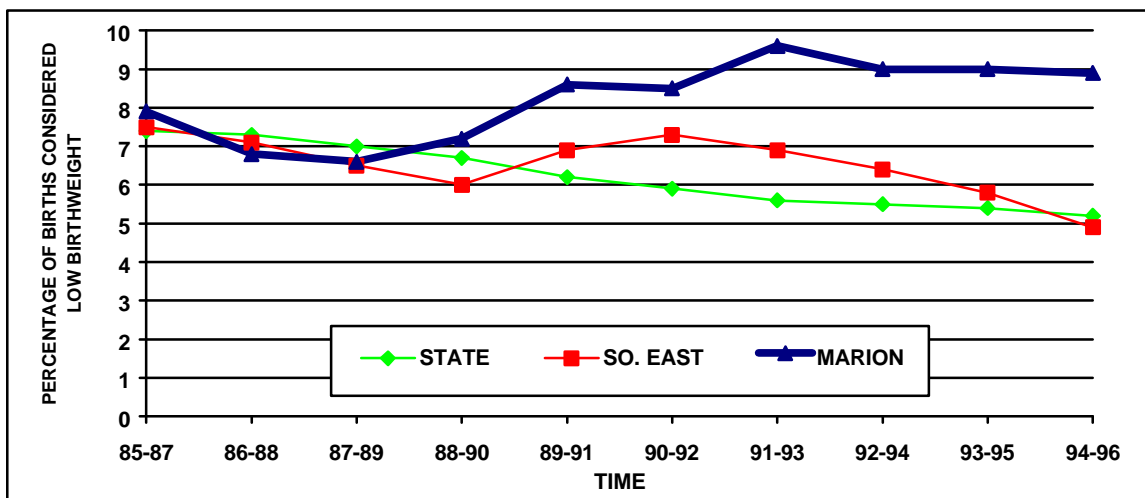


IV. SECONDARY DATA

Secondary data (information already collected by other sources for other purposes) is assembled each year by the State Office of Health Statistics and Information for Marion County. This data includes county-specific birth statistics, morbidity or disease statistics and mortality or death statistics. The data covers a twelve-year trend and is provided in three-year averages to smooth the trend lines and eliminate wide fluctuations in year-to-year rates that may distort the true trends. Marion County's data is compared to the corresponding state and Southeast Region (Bledsoe, Bradley, Franklin, Grundy, McMinn, Meigs, Polk, Rhea, and Sequatchie Counties) rates, national "Year 2000 Objectives," and includes rates for white, non-white, and all races combined. The secondary data used in the Community Diagnosis Process is described below, with *graphs and tables used to highlight issues recognized as potential problems* by the Marion County Health Council.

Marion County Pregnancy And Birth Experience

- **Number of Births Per 1,000 Females Ages 10-44** - The Marion County trend has increased during the 1990's. Traditionally, the trend is slightly higher than the Southeast Region, but lower than the State. Women of child-bearing age in Marion County give birth to approximately 325 babies each year (50 per 1,000 females ages 10-44).
- **Percentage of Births to Unwed Mothers Ages 10-44** - The Marion County trend has increased, so has that of the Southeast Region, while the trend for the state has decreased. Traditionally, the trend is lower than the State, but higher than the Southeast Region. Annually, 23% of Marion County births occur to unwed mothers.
- **Percentage of Births Considered Low Birthweight (All Mothers Age 10-44)** - The Marion County rate is relatively stable. Traditionally, Marion County's rate has been higher than the Southeast Region and the State. Annually, 8% of all Marion County births are deemed low birthweight (a rate higher than the "Year 2000 Objective" of 5%).
- **Number of Abortions Per 1,000 Live Births to Females Ages 10-44** - In the last decade, trends have decreased in the county, Southeast Region, and State levels. Traditionally, Marion County's trend is lower than the Southeast Region and significantly lower than the State.
- **Percentage of Abortions to Unwed Females Ages 10-44** - The Marion County trend was fairly unstable throughout the twelve-year period, unlike the Southeast Region and the State, which have both increased. Across the State, the Southeast Region, and in Marion County approximately 75% of all abortions occur to unwed females.



YEAR	85-87	86-88	87-89	88-90	89-91	90-92	91-93	92-94	93-95	94-96	Percent Change
MARION	7.9	6.8	6.6	7.2	8.6	8.5	9.6	9.0	9.0	8.9	12.7